

**Metropolitan Education Commission
Executive Board Meeting
MEC Office, 930 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.
Thursday, January 7, 2016, 7:30 a.m.**

MINUTES

Attendance: Members present: Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Pat Wiedhopf, Dr. Kasey Urquidez, Bill Ardern, George Favela, Deborah Embry.
Members absent: Paul Lovelis
Non-members present: Felicia Ramirez, Edward Nossem

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – PAT WIEDHOPF

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL – PAT WIEDHOPF

Roll call was conducted; a quorum was established.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PAT WIEDHOPF

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was recited by all attendees.

4.0 APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 3, 2015 MEETING MINUTES – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: George Favela

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion approved unanimously.

5.0 APPROVAL OF JANUARY 20, 2016 MEC REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to Approve: George Favela

Second: Dr. Kasey Urquidez

Motion approved unanimously.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Collaborations – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

Laurel Kimball, Founding Principal of the Phoenix Philanthropy Group will be adding a profile of the MEC to their statewide report; they will announce it when they are ready to publish.

Regarding the Community Schools Initiative – TUSD is not working with AmeriCorps; their volunteers are being moved over to United Way.

6.2 Budget - Bill Ardern

The execution of the budget remains on track. We have received the remainder of the first \$70,000 disbursement from College Success Arizona. We have also started work on the Pima County 2016-2017 RFP, with the current total funding request of \$82,200.

We are applying for a \$239,000 Talent Search Grant; the RCAC's mentoring activities are especially suited to the stipulations of the grant. Martha Lee has been asked to serve as the Grant Writer.

Motion to approve Martha Lee contract for the Talent Search Grant:

Motion: Deborah Embry

Second: George Favela

Motion carried unanimously.

6.3 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

We have reserved Friday, April 29, 2016 with the Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel for the 26th Annual Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon. We have 7 tables so far: Pima County School Superintendent (Gold Sponsorship), Pima County Attorney's Office (Commitment), and Jim Click Automotive Team, who will do a Table Sponsorship and has asked to be invoiced in March 2016. Bill Ardern also committed to a table.

The 2006 CAA Lifetime Achievement Honoree is Dr. John Pedicone. The 2016 Education Advocacy Award Honoree is General Ron Shoopman of the Southern Arizona Leadership Council. The Teacher Honoree is Jennifer Anglin, Flowing Wells Junior High School, Flowing Wells USD. We still need to select the Corporate and Youth Honorees; the Youth Honoree will be selected by YAC/TTC members in the Spring of 2016.

The Crystal Apple Luncheon Committee has recommended that the Counselor Award be presented to Judy Bowers, for her many years of service to not only Tucson and Pima County, but also nationally.

Regarding the Corporate Award, George Favela suggested contacting the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for ideas, and Deborah Embry suggested Bob Elliott who worked with scholarship programs.

Motion to approve Judy Bowers as the CAA Counselor Honoree:

Motion: George Favela

Second: Dr. Kasey Urquidez

Motion approved unanimously.

6.4 Issues – George Favela

A candidate for the Pima County School Superintendent has contacted the MEC asking to address the Commission. It was decided that the appropriate approach would be to hold a candidates Forum, inviting all of the candidates. Ed Nossem will find out when the filing date for candidacy is; a possible date in September 2016 will be looked into as well as a venue, perhaps Catalina High School Auditorium.

6.5 RCAC – David Rodriguez

(David Rodriguez not present – Dr. Webb-Vignery presented) David Rodriguez has been training AmeriCorps volunteers and travelling a great deal. There are 24 AmeriCorps Student Ambassadors, that David has been training and assisting in other ways.

The press conference announcing the Helios Education Foundation statewide College Knowing & Going initiative will take place tentatively in March 2016.

6.6 Appointments – The Tucson Indian Center has recommended Alexander Lewis to replace Vicky Mullins as their Commission appointee. Mr. Lewis is a

University of Arizona student. The MEC office will contact him for his personal contact information.

6.7 YAC/TTC – Paul Lovelis

(Paul Lovelis not present – Ed Nossem presented) The YAC/TTC's is moving forward with its various tasks and initiatives. The Civic Engagement Day is scheduled for Wednesday, March 2, 2016; donations are being solicited for renting a motor coach for the trip. Ed Nossem will contact the schools represented at the Teen Town Hall asking that 2 students from each school be allowed to attend.

YAC/TTC member Kyle Hetherington requested that the MEC Executive Board become involved with the U.S. President's Youth Council; after examining the literature it was decided that the YAC/TTC would be best served by maintaining its local focus.

6.8 Key to Employment Symposium – Ed Nossem

We have secured the UA Student Union for Wednesday, February 3, 2016 for the 2016 K2E event. The Key to Employment Symposium is one of the Arizona Sci-Tech Festival Signature events, and is getting statewide exposure through their media. We will be sending a Media Release to our media contacts before the event. The UA Telemedicine Department will be film recording the UA/Pima 2+2 Transfer Program and the RCAC Workshops for webcasting at a later date. We are continuing to register exhibitors and schools.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: Deborah Embry

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.